

WAVELENGTH SELECTIVE GRATING ASSISTED OPTICAL COUPLERS

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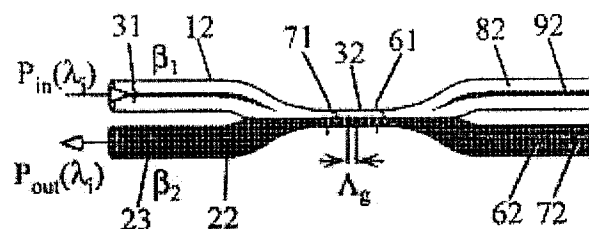
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A wavelength selective optical fiber coupler having various applications in the field of optical communications is disclosed. The coupler is composed of dissimilar waveguides (12, 22) in close proximity. A light induced, permanent index of refraction grating (42) is recorded in the coupler waist (52). The grating filters and transfers energy within a particular range of wavelengths from a first waveguide (12) to a second waveguide (22).

Transversely asymmetric gratings provide an efficient means of energy transfer. The coupler can be used to combine or multiplex a plurality of lasers operating at slightly different wavelengths into a single fiber. Other embodiments such as a dispersion compensator and gain flattening filter are disclosed.



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